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(71) Applicant: ORIENTAL YEAST CO LTD

(72) Inventor: TANIGUCHI YOSHIYUKI  
MORI KYOKO  
MATSUO TAKESHI  
KIHIRA YASUNORI  
KIHIRA YOSHIKO

(54) MMP-9 RELATED NEW TUMOR SPECIFIC ANTIGEN

(57) Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide a tumor marker antigen having a highly specific characteristic to tumor and to ensure a sure clinical diagnosis to tumor through the detection of the antigen by detecting the existence of protein having a specified molecular weight size and reacting with antigelatinase B antibody, with the extraction liquid of tissue sample where the existence of tumor is doubtful being put under the reduction or nonreduction conditions, from the extraction liquid.

**SOLUTION:** The extraction liquid of tissue sample where the existence of tumor is doubtful is put under the

reduction or nonreduction conditions, and then the existence of protein whose molecular weight is about 74k and/or about 36k and which reacts with antigelatinase B antigen is detected by the extraction liquid, thereby detecting the existence of tumor. The conditions of reduction are that the protein sample, in electrophoresis, is left as it is quietly at a normal temperature or boiled at a high temperature and then reduced under the existence of mercaptoethanol having the concentration of 1-10%. As the antibody used for the detection of protein whose molecular weight size is about 74k or 36k, a monoclonal antibody is used. The antibody reacts specifically with human MMP-9 and does not react with MMP-2, 3, 13.

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